

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 4, 2002**. The continued showers are delaying hay harvest for many farmers. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 14 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2001	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dough	98	95	98	97	0	7	21	52	20
	Dent	88	75	86	85					
	Mature	39	20	38	39					
	Harvested	2	--	2	5					
	Silage Harvested	58	41	51	48					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	99	95	98	98	0	3	13	58	26
	Open Bolls	5	1	2	3					
Rice	Heading	75	52	79	69	0	2	10	58	30
	Mature	4	--	4	1					
Sorghum	Heading	100	99	99	97	0	1	15	63	21
	Turning Color	69	53	67	61					
	Mature	11	3	18	9					
	Silage Harvested	10	5	--	1					
Soybeans	Blooming	96	93	100	94	0	4	19	50	27
	Setting Pods	81	72	91	79					
	Turning Color	11	3	19	11					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	76	68	75	70	1	3	23	49	24
Watermelons	Harvested	97	89	83	80	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes						3	14	27	46	10
Cattle						1	3	17	58	21
Pasture						1	4	22	52	21

County Agent Comments

“Scattered heavy showers have made hay harvesting difficult. Corn is responding well after a rough start early this season. We are seeing some armyworm infestations starting to pop up in pastures and in some milo.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn County

“Armyworms and bollworms are starting to show up in row crops and pastures. The county is split between too wet and too dry as some spots received 3 inches of rain last Tuesday. The same areas keep getting the moisture.”

— Bill Burdine, Chickasaw County

“We harvested corn last week and the early planted corn yields are doing better than expected. Most of the crop area got one inch of rain on Saturday. A few more worms are starting to show up in soybeans and armyworms are bad in some pastures.”

— Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee County

“Pastures have more grazing than is normal for this time of year. Hay harvest is delayed by frequent rain showers. Cows are in great shape due to abundance of grass.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones County

“Hay harvest has been put on hold with the tropical storm system "Bertha" making her presence in the Gulf of Mexico. Armyworms are becoming true pests.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River County

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Weather Summary from July 29, 2002 to August 4, 2002 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	95	71	83	82	+1	2.52	+1.83	2	6.93	90	77	83	0.24
Cleveland	97	70	84	82	+2	0.12	-0.31	1	3.06				
Tunica	95	72	84	82	+2	0.51	-0.13	2	2.90	97	80	88	0.25
Extreme/Average	97	70	83	82	+1	1.05	+0.31	2	4.30	97	77	85	0.24
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	95	63	80	79	+1	0.00	-0.87	0	3.50	89	81	84	0.22
Memphis	96	72	84	83	+1	1.63	+0.84	2	4.88				
Oxford	95	70	83	80	+3	0.23	-0.61	1	4.42				
Extreme/Average	96	63	82	80	+2	0.62	-0.21	1	4.27	89	81	84	0.22
3. Northeast													
Booneville	96	70	83	80	+3	0.00	-0.82	0	1.76				
Corinth				82		0.70E	-0.10	2	2.18E				
Iuka	94	66	79	78	+1	0.67	-0.28	3	2.93				
Pontotoc	93	68	81	81	0	0.63	-0.17	2	1.92	89	80	84	0.22
Tupelo	96	69	83	81	+2	0.06	-0.59	1	3.69				
Verona	98	70	83	81	+2	0.48	-0.29	1	3.96	96	79	88	0.27
Extreme/Average	98	66	82	80	+2	0.42	-0.40	2	2.74	96	79	86	0.25
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				82		2.00	+1.03	1	3.60				
Rolling Fork	97	70	84	82	+2	0.33	-0.41	1	1.94	107	85	97	0.24
Stoneville	98	71	84	82	+2	0.36	-0.25	1	3.24	100	80	91	0.24
Yazoo City	95	70	83	82	+1	1.41	+0.53	3	5.43				
Extreme/Average	98	70	84	82	+2	1.03	+0.23	2	3.55	107	80	94	0.24
5. Central													
Carthage	94	64	81	81	0	0.66	-0.27	3	5.00				
Greenwood	97	70	83	83	0	0.00	-0.70	0	4.88				
Jackson	94	71	82	82	0	5.31	+4.35	5	10.47				
Winona	92	68	80	78	+2	1.10	+0.26	1	9.23				
Extreme/Average	97	64	81	81	0	1.77	+0.82	2	7.40				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.16	-0.61	1	1.62				
Columbus	96	70	84	82	+2	0.01	-0.85	1	3.42				
State University	96	68	82	81	+1	0.08	-0.78	1	5.67	93	82	86	0.24
Extreme/Average	96	68	83	81	+2	0.08	-0.89	1	3.57	93	82	86	0.24
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	95	69	81	82	-1	0.63	-0.19	3	3.26	86	80	82	
Natchez	92	63	79	82	-3	3.70	+2.86	4	6.79				
Oakley	97	71	83	81	+2	1.52	+0.68	4	4.12	93	80	85	
Vicksburg	95	73	84			0.32		2	1.27				
Extreme/Average	97	63	82	81	+1	1.54	+0.54	3	3.86	93	80	84	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	95	70	81	82	-1	1.34	+0.18	6	6.59				
McComb	94	70	81	82	-1	1.43	+0.22	4	11.42				
Extreme/Average	95	70	81	81	0	1.39	+0.21	5	9.01				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	96	69	81			1.13		2	4.45				
Hattiesburg	98	67	80	82	-2	1.93	+0.71	5	3.93				
Laurel				82		0.85E	-0.25	4	2.94E				
Meridian	95	69	81	82	-1	0.84	-0.16	4	4.19				
Newton	98	67	81	81	0	1.38	+0.38	2	3.49	95	74	81	0.22
Extreme/Average	98	67	81	81	0	1.23	+0.10	3	3.80	95	74	81	0.22
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	97	69	81	82	-1	2.08	+0.50	5	3.61				
Biloxi AFB	93	73	81			1.87		6	7.71				
Gulfport	93	71	80	83	-3	3.82	+2.39	6	8.47				
Pascagoula	94	70	81			1.92		5	5.51				
Poplarville	95	69	81	82	-1	0.29	-1.09	4	3.13	92	77	84	0.20
Extreme/Average	97	69	81	82	-1	2.00	+0.53	5	5.69	92	77	84	0.20
State	98	63	82	81	+1	1.13	+0.14	3	4.85	107	74	85	0.25

DFN = Departure from Normal.